



**Co-Opportunity, Inc.
Hartford, CT**

Project Title	Hartford IDA Collaborative
Contact Information	Timothy Cole 20-28 Sargeant Street Hartford, CT 06105 (860) 236-3617 x 112
Grant Amount	\$45,000
Nonfederal Support	\$595,000
Project Period	September 2004 – September 2009
Highlights	<p>The Hartford IDA Collaborative will expand its current AFI-supported program to support 20 new IDAs. Sixteen of the accounts will be offered to families seeking to buy a first home, with a strong emphasis on families who wish to invest in homes in the cities of Hartford or New Britain. Two IDAs are set-aside to support participants seeking post-secondary education. The two remaining will be for participants of an existing small business program which currently enrolls 10 participants with AFI funded IDAs. The program will match participant IDA savings at a rate of \$2 to \$1.</p>
Target Population	<p>Residents of Hartford and New Britain, Connecticut, or its adjacent communities. The program will give priority to those who live in two of Hartford's most disadvantaged neighborhoods: Upper Albany and Frog Hollow.</p>
Grantee/Collaborative Description	<p>Co-Opportunity, Inc., founded in 1987, creates housing and community economic development initiatives that empower lower-income people to become self-sufficient stakeholders in the community. In addition to homebuyer education, Co-Opportunity provides rental, new purchase, and foreclosure counseling to area residents.</p> <p>The Hartford IDA Collaborative, for which Co-Opportunity Inc. is the lead agency and fiscal agent, is a four-year-old partnership of community organizations, financial institutions, technical assistance providers, and funders in greater Hartford. Program collaborators include the Mutual Housing Association of Greater Hartford, the Human Resources Agency of New Britain, the Urban League of Greater Hartford; and the Village for Families and Children.</p>